Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A refrigerator comprising:

a cabinet;

a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having a door;

a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;

a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;

a damper movable between an open position and a closed position for controlling airflow within the duct;

a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the refrigeration apparatus, and an off cycle being a time within said refrigeration cycle during which the refrigeration apparatus is not operating;

a controller for controlling the damper; and

a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting when the door is open;

wherein if the controller determines that the door has remained closed for a set number of refrigeration cycles, the controller maintains the damper in the closed position during a subsequent consecutive off cycle.

Claim 2 (original): The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein the refrigeration apparatus is a compressor.

Claim 3 (original): The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein the set number of refrigeration cycles is three.

Claim 4 (original): The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein the set number of refrigeration cycles is one.

Claim 5 (previously presented): An apparatus for controlling airflow between compartments in a two compartment refrigerator having a door, the apparatus comprising:

a damper for opening and closing a duct between the two compartments of the refrigerator;

a controller for controlling the opening and closing of the damper; and

a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting when the door is open;

wherein if the controller determines that the door has remained closed for a set period, the controller closes and/or maintains the damper in the closed position during a subsequent operation of a refrigeration apparatus.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the two compartments comprise a frozen food compartment and a fresh food compartment, the door being associated with the fresh food compartment.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the door sensor is a switch.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the set period is a set number of on/off cycles of a compressor of the refrigerator.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the set number of on/off cycles is three.

Claim 10 (original): A self defrosting refrigerator comprising:

a cabinet;

a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having a first door;

a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having a second door;

a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;

a damper movable between an open position and a closed position for controlling airflow within the duct;

a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet; and

a controller for controlling the damper;

wherein the controller carries out a damper cleaning operation in which the controller at least partially opens and

then at least partially closes the damper a set number of times at a set interval.

Claim 11 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10 wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning operation prior to energizing an evaporator fan.

Claim 12 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, further comprising a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning operation subsequent to an operation of the defrosting apparatus.

Claim 13 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, further comprising a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning operation between an operation of the defrosting apparatus and a subsequent consecutive energizing of the evaporator fan.

Claim 14 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, wherein during the cleaning operation the damper is moved from a fully open position to a fully closed position.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A ~~The~~ damper cleaning apparatus ~~of claim 15~~ for a two compartment refrigerator having a damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the damper cleaning apparatus comprising:

a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the damper; and

a controller for controlling the damper drive mechanism wherein the controller caries out a cleaning operation by at least partially opening and then partially closing the damper a set number of times at a set interval, wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning operation prior to an operation of the an evaporator fan of the refrigerator.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A ~~The~~ damper cleaning apparatus ~~of claim 15~~ for a two compartment refrigerator having a damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the damper cleaning apparatus comprising:

a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the damper; and

a controller for controlling the damper drive mechanism wherein the controller caries out a cleaning operation by at least partially opening and then partially closing the damper a set number of times at a set interval, wherein the controller carries our the damper cleaning operation subsequent to a defrost operation of the refrigerator.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): A method for cleaning a damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:

at least partially opening the damper;

following the step of opening, waiting for a set period and

then at least partially closing the damper;

repeating the steps of at least partially opening and waiting a set number of times; and

initiating a defrosting operation of the refrigerator prior to the step of opening.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method for cleaning a damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:

at least partially opening the damper;

following the step of opening, waiting for a set period and then at least partially closing the damper;

repeating the steps of at least partially opening and waiting a set number of times; and

commencing a cooling operation of the refrigeration apparatus following the step of repeating.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein the controller opens the damper during an off cycle when the second refrigerated compartment requires cooling.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A refrigerator comprising:

a cabinet;

a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having a door;

a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;

a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;

a damper movable between an open position and a closed position for controlling airflow within the duct;

a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the refrigeration apparatus, and an off cycle being a time within said refrigeration cycle during which the refrigeration apparatus is not operating;

a controller for controlling the damper; and

a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting when the door is open;

wherein if the controller determines that the door been opened during a set number of prior refrigeration cycles, the controller opens the damper when the second refrigerated compartment requires cooling.